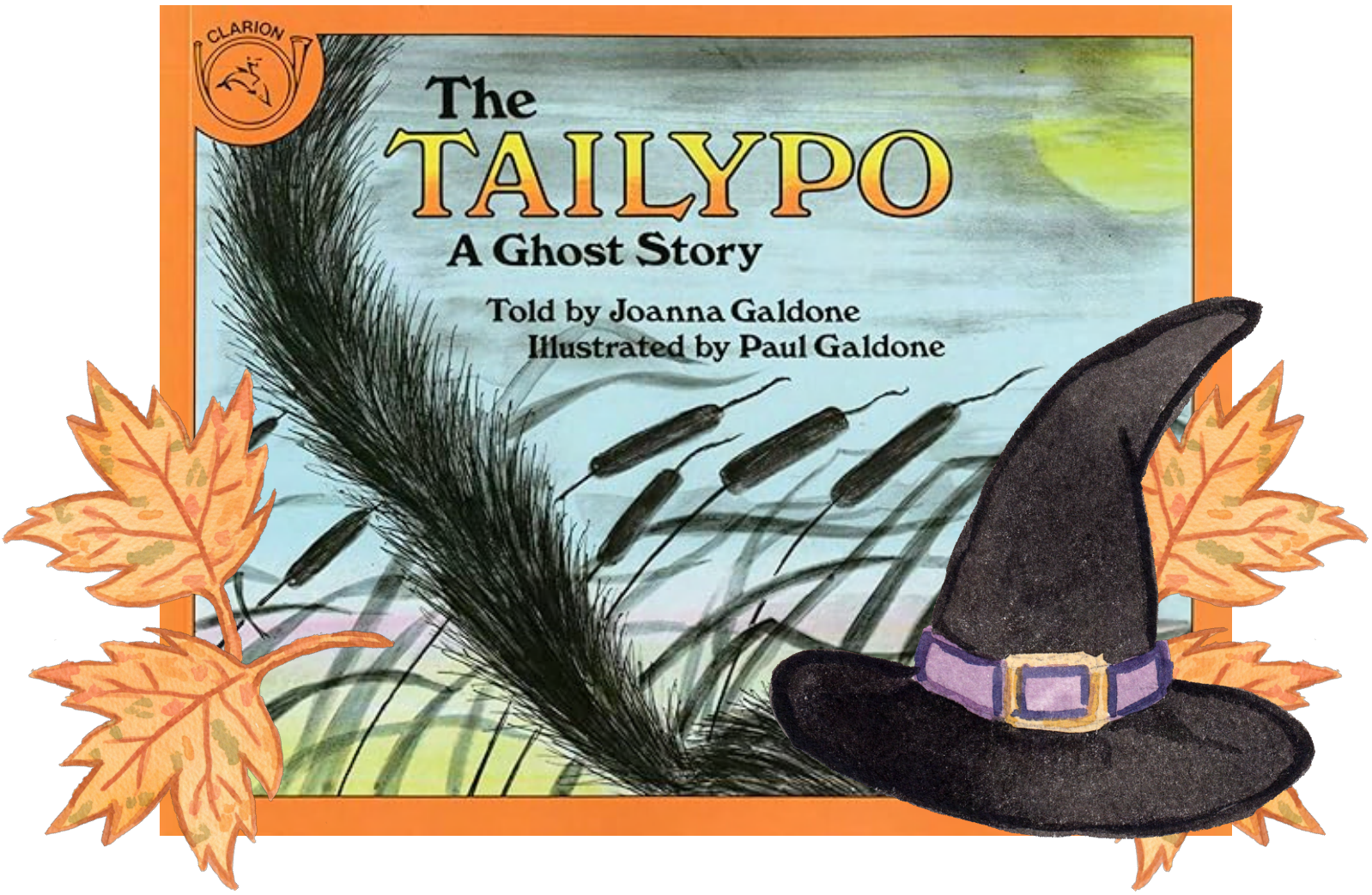
Sharing Story Learning Series

handcrafted printable story and writing explorations

developed by Paula J. Vaughan, M.H.

The Tailypo: A Ghost Story
Elementary Learners
Literature Study



The Tailypo: A Ghost Story
Elementary Learners Literature Study
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Thank you so much for choosing to incorporate the Sharing Story Learning Series within your education plans.

I am excited to share beautiful children's literature with you.

If you have questions about your purchased product or require support, please reach out to me. I'm happy to help.

Warmly,
Paula

Paula J. Vaughan, M.H.

Contact:
etsy.com/shop/SharingStory

Sharing Story Elementary Learners Literature Studies have been developed for the enjoyment and use of both experienced and new educators with an emphasis on ease-of-use, affordability, flexibility, creativity, and fun.

Elementary Learners Literature Studies are scalable resources designed for children in elementary grades to be enjoyed within a single sitting ranging from one hour to a half-day, the length and complexity of which determined by the educator.

Explorations are developed to stand alone or may be seamlessly integrated into any elementary grades Sharing Story curriculum.

Elementary Learners Literature Studies include:

- Educator Support page with summary of the story, related topic suggestions for group discussion, thoughtful activity suggestions, and space for personal notes.
- 3 discussion questions requesting written responses
- a creative reflection sheet requesting a written and illustrative response

Preparation time is minimal involving three (3) simple steps:

1. borrow or purchase the book being explored
2. gather basic writing and crafting materials
3. print the discussion question and creative reflection sheets

You're ready to go!

The activities and questions developed for the Sharing Story Learning Series are about the child sharing their own voice. Children are asked to share their own ideas, opinions, feelings, and beliefs in relation to the books and topics posed.

Educators determine how and when they wish to present the activities and information.

For example, discussion questions may be addressed informally, aloud as a group or independently by older students. Reading and activities may be shared during reflective quiet time or in the afternoon as gentle outdoor moments.

Educators may wish to collect students' completed work in a special folder, notebook, or display. Enjoy!

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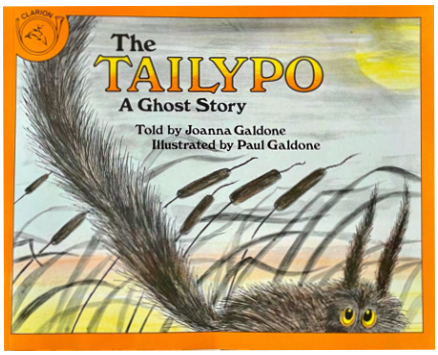
The Tailypo: A Ghost Story
told by Joanna Galdone, illustrated by Paul Galdone
ISBN-13: 978-0395300848
Educator Support



Joanna Galdone's *The Tailypo: A Ghost Story* is an oral folk tale shared for generations. Set in a spooky, wooded swamp, an old man and his hunting dogs live in a one room cabin. Hearing scratching and strange sounds outside, they are tormented by a mysterious creature. Forced to defend himself, the old man shoots and eats the creature's tail inciting haunting mayhem! Paul Galdone's lively, animated illustrations brilliantly communicate the rambunctious pace of this frightening, mysterious story. *The Tailypo: A Ghost Story* is the perfect folktale to share with young people who enjoy a good scare at Halloween, ghost stories around a campfire, or snuggled in their cozy bed.

Group Discussion Suggestions:
- folklore
- ghost stories
- swamp habitats

Thoughtful Activity Suggestions:
The Tailypo: A Ghost Story is based on an oral folktale told in the southern United States from the Appalachian Mountains to the Florida swamps. Young people may wish to explore varied versions of the tale most especially "The Peculiar Such Thing" told by Virginia Hamilton within *The People Could Fly: American Black Folktales*, illustrated by Leo and Dianne Dillon. Fascinatingly, Mrs. Hamilton attributes Tailypo folktales to their potential origination in the English fairy tale tradition including *The Teeny-Tiny Woman*. Storyteller Veronica Byrd has a free audio retelling of her version of "Taily-po" with written transcript on *The Moonlit Road* [click] web site. Families may wish to compare and contrast the landscape, characters, and verbiage in versions of Tailypo ghost stories as an exploration of global folklore, noting how the teller, their culture, and beliefs influence the story details.

Educator Notes:

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The Tailypo: A Ghost Story told by Joanna Galdone, illustrated by Paul Galdone
Discussion Questions

1. How do you imagine the creature's voice *sounds*? How might you describe this voice in words? Please share.

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2. The storyteller says the old man could *feel* there was something in the room even with his eyes closed. Have you ever had a similar experience? Please discuss.

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3. What do you think the creature in story could be? Please describe.

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_____

Name: _____ Date: _____

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The Tailypo: A Ghost Story told by Joanna Galdone, illustrated by Paul Galdone
Creative Reflection

The Tailypo: A Ghost Story succeeds in creating a spooky setting with the old man living alone in the deep, dark, swampy woods amidst the sounds of blowing wind. We can feel his isolation. Imagine a spooky story you want to tell. Please describe and illustrate the setting where it takes place, helping your audience feel the eeriness you are imagining.

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Name: _____ Date: _____

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